United Nations S/2014/512*

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 21 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement made by a spokesperson for the Policy Department of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 20 July and of a statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 19 July 2014 with regard to press elements issued by the Security Council in connection with the short-range missile launches by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (see annexes).

It is a typical example of partial and unfair acts of the Security Council to condemn the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's self-defensive exercise of tactical short-range missile launches while turning a blind eye to the provocative ongoing joint military exercises by the United States of America and south Korea deploying a nuclear aircraft carrier against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The hostile policy of the United States against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States-south Korea provocative annual joint war games aiming to occupy Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, are none other than a root cause of the vicious cycle of aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula as well as a grave threat to the maintenance of international peace and security.

If the Security Council has a sincere concern about peace and security on the Korean peninsula, it should uphold an impartial stance and undertake the necessary actions to remove a root cause responsible for aggravating the situation.

Therefore, I strongly request that the question of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I also have the honour to request that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedures of the Security Council, a representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea be allowed to participate in the meeting and to make a statement.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 24 July 2014.

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I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I to the letter dated 21 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea blasts Security Council's press elements critical of its launch of short-range missiles

Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA). The Security Council at its informal consultative meeting held on July 17 staged a farce of releasing a statement to the press terming the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's launch of even short-range missiles a "violation of its resolutions".

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in a statement on Saturday, July 19, said that all the military measures taken by the Korean People's Army, including tactical rocket firing, are an exercise of the right to self-defence to protect the sovereignty of the country and the security of the nation from the United States' nuclear threats and moves for aggression from A to Z.

This year the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a series of positive peace proposals ranging from the crucial proposal of its National Defence Commission and its special proposal, to the statement of its Government, and has taken practical measures pursuant to them, the statement noted. It continued:

> The United States, however, staged Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises in succession, together with the south Korean puppet forces, and kicked off the largest-ever combined aerial drill in the wake of the largest-scale joint landing exercises since 1993.
>
> The Security Council persistently overlooked the United States' madcap war maneuvers of aggression and nuclear threat, and took issue with the inevitable option taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to cope with them and censured it. This is absolutely intolerable.
>
> If the Security Council is to perform its mission of ensuring global peace and security, it should call into question the offensive, threatening and provocative joint military exercises of the United States and the south Korean puppet forces.
>
> How the Security Council approaches the said exercises will be a yardstick to assess its impartiality and judge whether or not it can contribute to global peace and security in both name and in reality.
>
> Now that the Security Council serves the purpose of the hostile moves by the United States against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, bereft of its impartiality, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is left with no option but to bolster its muscle to protect itself by its own efforts.
>
> No matter how fair-minded and just one may be, one is bound to fall victim to big powers if one is weak, and it is possible to protect genuine peace only when one builds their muscle strong enough to deter any force from provoking them. This is the lesson and truth taught by history.

The further the United States escalates its nuclear threat and blackmail, the greater efforts the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will channel into bolstering its nuclear deterrence for self-defence. As long as the United States and the south Korean puppet forces persist in their joint military exercises for aggression, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's counter-actions will be put on an annual and regular basis.

Any conflict which may take place in the course of the Korean People's Army's tactical rocket firing and other intensified retaliatory drills to cope with the ceaseless war maneuvers of the United States in south Korea and its vicinity may spill over to a war.

In case an unpredictable situation is created on the Korean peninsula, the United States and the Security Council which instigated and patronized it will be wholly responsible for the development as it compelled the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to choose such an inevitable option.

Annex II to the letter dated 21 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

United States and south Korean authorities warned of their reckless acts

Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA). A spokesman for the Policy Department of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on July 20 issued a statement condemning the United States and its followers for kicking up a campaign over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's legitimate measures to bolster its capability for self-defence. The statement said:

> Strategic force units and other units of the ground, naval and air and anti-air forces of the Korean People's Army have recently conducted a series of drills with various missions under the simulated conditions of an actual war to bolster the capability for self-defence, such as the ones for ultraprecision tactical rocket firing and firing drills of diverse artillery pieces.
>
> The service personnel and the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are greatly encouraged by the signal successes made in these drills of Korean People's Army units.
>
> The peace- and justice-loving people in the world are expressing admiration at the shining successes of the service personnel and the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
>
> It is against this backdrop that only the United States and its ally the Park Geun Hye group and some other undesirable forces are behaving mischievously, revealing their sinister intentions.
>
> The United States grumbled as if tactical rockets of the Korean People's Army had gone into action to strike its mainland, claiming "north Korea is posing an unusual and special threat to the United States".
>
> It is terming the routine drills of the Korean People's Army a politically motivated low-profile provocation and successive military threats to the allies in the region.
>
> The south Korean authorities are echoing the United States claim by asserting that the tactical rocket firing and firing drills of artillery pieces by the Korean People's Army are a retaliation against their refusal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's special proposal and its government's statement, a dangerous provocation to escalate the military tensions and a deliberate threat to them.
>
> They went to the length of letting the Security Council, a mechanism which has lost its impartiality long ago, kick up a big fuss in a bid to mislead public opinion.
>
> Some weak-willed countries are blindly joining in this odd charade. Clinging to the malodorous coat-tails of the United States, they are becoming so reckless as to vie with each other to hug poor-looking Park Geun Hye.

In view of the ridiculous ruckus being staged by creating profound confusion between right and wrong, the Policy Department of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea once again serves a strong warning to the United States and the south Korean authorities, their prime movers, reflecting the voices of the service personnel and the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The authorities of the United States and south Korea should properly know what the words "provocation" and "threat" mean before wagging their tongues.

If the tactical rocket firing of the Korean People's Army is a "provocation" to the United States and a threat to regional stability and peace, then what should be said of the countless number of strategic missiles launched by the United States and of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea-targeted war drills frequently staged by it together with the south Korean military gangsters after bringing its forces to another country?

The real provocations and threats made to the Korean peninsula are the whole gamut of political and military moves being pushed forward by the United States, pursuant to its hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its belligerent military strategy.

In other words, the reckless intrusions into the waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea side perpetrated by the warmongers of the south Korean military almost every day at the instigation of the United States are typical provocations.

The United States and the south Korean authorities should not resort to brazen-faced brigandish acts reminiscent of a thief brandishing a club.

The United States, an arch criminal making provocations and threats, is kicking up high-intensity war drills for aggression every day in the land, waters and sky of another country. The United States and the south Korean authorities who are hell-bent on confrontation with the compatriots in the north at the former's beck and call are terming the military drills for self-defence conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on its own land and in its waters and sky a "provocation" and a "threat". What are suitable words to describe such impudent and brigandish behavior?

This is nothing but a shameless act of a burglar behaving rudely in the face of the master of the house trying to protect his house by himself.

Such hooliganism may work somewhere else but can never work in this land being safeguarded by the service personnel and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The more desperately the United States and the south Korean authorities resort to gangster-like hostile acts, the more deadly retaliatory actions of Korean style they will face. This will be like a bolt from the blue.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has already done everything it could to mend north-south relations and achieve the reunification, peace and prosperity of the country through its crucial proposal and open letter in January, special proposal in June and government statement in July.

What remains to be done at present is to make a final choice.

The United States and the south Korean authorities should no longer behave recklessly, daring talk about "provocation" and "threat" from someone.

If they persist in doing so, all the self-defensive deterrent forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will keep themselves fully ready to punish all undesirable forces in the world, to strikingly demonstrate its invincible might and strongly counter their moves through its practical retaliatory actions of justice.

United Nations A/ES-10/642–S/2014/513

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 21 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The atrocities and heinous crimes that continue to be perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip compel me to write to you again to appeal for urgent action by the international community to bring an end to this Israeli aggression and save innocent civilian lives.

An immediate ceasefire is needed to put a halt to the war crimes and human rights violations being committed with impunity by the Israeli occupying forces against the besieged and suffering Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip. We recognize the regional and international efforts being exerted towards a ceasefire, including the important support and efforts by the Secretary-General and the calls by the Security Council for a ceasefire, and appeal for greater efforts to help bring an end to the bloodshed and destruction.

For the fourteenth day, Israel, the occupying Power, has continued its airstrikes and artillery assaults on densely populated civilian areas throughout the Gaza Strip. Today, Israeli occupying forces brutally killed multiple members of three extended Palestinian families: a family of 11 persons in Rafah, a family of 26 persons in Khan Younis and a family of 5 persons in Gaza City. The slaughter of these families follows the massacre committed by the occupying forces yesterday, 20 July, in the Shuja'iya area of Gaza City, where more than 70 Palestinians were killed, deepening the vast trauma and horror being borne by our people under this criminal and inhumane Israeli occupation and military onslaught on civilians.

The Palestinian death toll has now exceeded 520 people. In addition, the number of injured now exceeds 3,500, so many of them severely injured and facing a life with permanent disabilities, including loss of limbs and eyesight. The ability of medical personnel to cope with the needs of the population and treat the wounded has been overwhelmed by the volume of death and injury being caused by these savage Israeli attacks and by the shortages in medicines and medical supplies that have long

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plagued Gaza owing to the illegal Israeli blockade. Further exacerbating the situation is the audacity of Israel, the occupying Power, in striking hospitals and medical facilities, including a strike on Al-Aqsa Hospital in Deir Al-Balah today, in which at least five Palestinian civilians were killed and many others injured, and extensive destruction was caused to large portions of the hospital, including the surgical and maternity wards. Such barbaric and criminal actions must invoke condemnation from the international community, and for these crimes, and all others being perpetrated against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable.

I am compelled to convey further details to you in this regard, in documentation of the vast crimes being carried out by Israel, the occupying Power, in grave breach of international law:

Israeli strikes on Gaza last night and into this morning resulted in the massacre of at least 26 members of the Abu Jami family in Khan Younis. Many more family members are feared to be under the rubble, as paramedics are not able to get to the scene, and those paramedics who have, are overwhelmed by the extent of death and destruction wrought by the occupying Power. As of now, medics have identified 13 victims of the Abu Jami family as Jawdat Tawfiq Ahmad Abu Jami (age 24), Tawfiq Ahmad Abu Jami (age 5), Haifa Tawfiq Ahmad Abu Jami (age 9), Yasmin Ahmad Salamah Abu Jami (age 25), Suhaila Bassam Abu Jami, Shahinaz Walid Muhammad Abu Jami (age 1), Rayan Tayseer Abu Jami (age 8), an elderly woman, Fatima Mahmoud Abu Jami, Rozan Abu Jami (age 14) and a neighbour, Ahmad Salhoub (age 34).

Israeli shelling has also killed 11 members of the Siyam family in Rafah, including Sumud Nasser Siyam (age 26), Muhammad Mahrous Salam Siyam (age 25), Badir Nabil Mahrous Siyam (age 25), Ahmad Ayman Mahrous Siyam (age 17), Mustafa Nabil Mahrous Siyam (age 12), Ghayda Nabil Mahrous Siyam (age 8), Sherin Muhammad Salam Siyam (age 32), Dalal Nabil Mahrous Siyam (8 months), and Kamal Mahrous Salamah Siyam (age 27), who were all pulled from beneath the rubble of their destroyed home. And five members of the al-Yaziji family, including Yasmin Nayif al-Yaziji, Mayar Nayif al-Yaziji (age 2), Wajdi al-Yaziji, Safinaz al-Yaziji, and Anas al-Yaziji (age 5), were also killed today by the Israeli occupying forces in Gaza City.

In addition to the above crimes against humanity and war crimes by Israel, at least 72 Palestinians, among them 17 children, 14 women and 4 elderly persons, were massacred by Israeli occupying forces in the Shujaiya area of Gaza, on Sunday, 20 July. Tragically, the number of human beings killed in this single attack against this civilian populated area will continue to rise, as the occupying forces are preventing the entry of medical assistance and personnel to the area, and many of the bodies of Palestinian civilians are still underneath the rubble of what was once their homes. Paramedics who were able to get to the scene of the massacre somberly stated: "There are no injured in Shujaiya, only dead".

Among the dead children from this criminal massacre in Shujaiya are Ibrahim Ammar (age 13), his brother Assem (age 4) and their sister Iman (age 9); Saji Hasan Al-Hallaq (age 4), his brother Kinan (age 6) and their sibling Mohammed (age 2); Shadi Isleem (age 15) and his siblings Alaa (age 11) and Fadi (age 10); Samia Al-Sheikh Khalil (age 3) and her sister Hiba (age13); Khalil Al-Hayyeh (age 7) and his sister Umama Al-Hayeh (age 9); Dima Isleem (age 2); Mohamad Ayyad (age 2); Rahaf Abu Jumaa (age 4); Tala Al-Attawi (age 7); Dina Hamada (age 15); Omar Hamouda (age 10); Ghada Ayyad (age 9); Marah Al-Jammal (age 11); and Marwa

Al-Sirsawi (age 3). The Palestinian children who were massacred have names, and they have mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, grandparents and friends, who are all grieving their violent deaths and are devastated by this massive loss of human life and innocence.

In addition to the children mentioned above, many more children have been brutally killed by the Israeli occupying forces since our last letter to you on 17 July 2014. In this regard, on Thursday, 17 July 2014, Fulla Tariq Shuhaibar, Afnan Shuheiber (age 8), Jihad Issam Shuhaibar (age 10) and Wasim Issam Shuaibar (age 9) were killed in an airstrike on their family home in the Sabra neighbourhood of Gaza City; Ahmad Ismail Abu Musallam (age 10), his sister Wala (age 12) and their brother Muhammad (age 15) were killed when a shell hit their bedroom in northern Gaza; Rahaf Khalil Al-Jbour (age 4) was killed by an airstrike on her home in Khan Younis; Yassin Al-Humaidi (age 4) died of injuries sustained during a strike on Gaza City; Mohammad Shadi Natiz (age 15) and Mohammed Salim Natiz (age 4) were killed by Israeli tank shelling, east of Gaza City.

Moreover, tragically, on Friday, 18 July, eight members of the Abu Jarad family, including five children, Siham Mousa Abu Jarad (age 15), Ahlam Na'im Abu Jarad (age 13), Haniyeh Abdelrahman Abu Jarad (age 3), Samih Na'im Abu Jarad (12 months old) and Mousa Abdelrahman Abu Jarad (6 months old), were killed by an Israeli missile fired into their home in Beit Hanoun, in northern Gaza. Also, on Saturday, 19 July, five more Palestinian civilians were mercilessly killed by the shelling by the Israeli occupying forces in Beit Hanoun, in northern Gaza, including four members of the Al-Zuwedi family: Mahmoud Al-Zuwedi, his wife Dalia and their two children, Nagham (age 2) and Ro'ya (age 3). The fifth family member was Mohammad Al-Zuwedi (age 20).

Amid all of this death and destruction, the humanitarian situation facing the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip is extremely dire and assistance is urgently needed. According to reports, more than 900,000 Palestinians are suffering from a lack of adequate access to water and sanitation services. Eighty per cent of the population receives electricity for just four hours a day. According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), more than 81,000 Palestinians, the majority of them refugees, have been displaced and are seeking shelter in 61 Agency buildings. Since 7 July, at least 85 schools and 18 health-related facilities have been damaged, many extensively. At least one doctor has been killed and at least 19 medical staff injured, and at least four ambulances damaged.

Moreover, conservative estimates are that at least 72,000 children now require specialized psychosocial support due to trauma caused by the death or injury of someone they know or the loss of a home, and merely as a result of witnessing the barbaric savagery of the Israeli occupying forces. Additionally, the thousands of Palestinian children in Gaza, who constitute the majority of the civilian population, are living in terror at the deafening explosions of missiles and bombs, the sounds of bombs fired, and the bright flashes of fire from homes set ablaze by the incessant Israeli aerial bombardment and shelling of civilian areas.

We call on the international community to act now to end Israel's aggression against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip and in all of Occupied Palestine, including East Jerusalem. Grave violations of human rights, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and State terror are being perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power,

against the Palestinian people in the West Bank. All such Israeli crimes must end as well as measures of collective punishment and excessive and indiscriminate force against the Palestinian civilian population, including peaceful protestors demanding the end to the aggression against their brothers and sisters in the Gaza Strip.

Strong and immediate international action is required, including by the Security Council, to demand a halt to Israel's military operations and to protect civilian lives. While recognizing the importance of the emergency meetings recently held by the Council and press statements made by the President of the Council in this regard, we stress that more must be done, in line with the Council's duties and resolutions as well as international humanitarian law, to demand an end to Israel's aggression against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and to ensure compliance by Israel with all of its legal obligations, including with regard to the protection of civilians. The responsibilities of the international community in this regard, including the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, are clear and must be upheld.

We continue to hope that the efforts under way by President Mahmoud Abbas with regional and international leaders will bring about a permanent ceasefire as well as a substantive and sustainable improvement in the conditions of the Palestinian people living in Gaza, including by lifting the eight-year-long illegal and immoral blockade imposed by the occupying Power, in collective punishment of 1.8 million people. The Security Council must do all that it can to save civilian lives and prevent the further exacerbation of the humanitarian situation and further destabilization by upholding its primary responsibility under the Charter to maintain international peace and security. Every moment of inaction by the international community that passes means more death, destruction and devastation for the Palestinian people. Every moment of inaction that passes means more war crimes by the occupying Power, for which Israel must be fully held accountable, with all perpetrators, including government leaders and army officials and soldiers, held responsible for their crimes against the Palestinian people. For the sake of the Palestinian people, it is our hope that history will document the actions by the Security Council to stop this Israeli onslaught against the Palestinian people.

This letter is in follow-up to our 508 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 17 July 2014 (A/ES-10/641-S/2014/506), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

United Nations S/2014/514

Security Council

Distr.: General
21 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 21 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

On 10 July 2014, I expressed my alarm to the Security Council at the renewed escalation of violence between Gaza and Israel following weeks of tension in the West Bank. I also welcomed the press statement by the Council, on 12 July 2014, which called unequivocally for a de-escalation of the situation, the restoration of calm and the reinstitution of the November 2012 ceasefire. I remain deeply concerned about the continuation of hostilities and the increasing number of civilian victims. I hope that ongoing efforts to reach a ceasefire will bear immediate and lasting results before the underlying causes of the repeated rounds of violence can be duly addressed.

As the crisis continued, I received, on 13 July 2014, the attached letter from Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine (see annex), which requests that "the territory of the State of Palestine be placed under an international protection system by the United Nations", with the central aim of "ensuring the protection of the Palestinian people". In light of the serious issues regarding Palestine, I am currently reviewing this request with my senior advisers.

I would be grateful if you could bring this letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

Placing Palestine under an international protection system administered by the United Nations

Against the backdrop of decades-long, contentious and entrenched Israeli colonial occupation, preventing the exercise by the Palestinian people of their fundamental right to self-determination in an independent state of their own in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip on the 1967 borders, I hereby officially request that the territory of the State of Palestine be placed under an international protection system by the United Nations.

The objectives of the international protection system for Palestine, in accordance with the purposes of the United Nations, international law and international humanitarian law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and human rights treaties are:

- The maintenance of international peace and security and taking effective collective measures, in conformity with international law, for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, acts of aggression and breach of peace resulting from Israel's continued occupation and illegal colonization of the occupied State of Palestine;
- To promote the political, economic, social rights, well-being and advancement of the Palestinian people and their progressive development towards independence in a state of their own in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip on the 1967 borders, which constitutes the internationally recognized self-determination unit of the Palestinian people;
- To ensure respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and international law and international humanitarian law and to provide protection for the Palestinian people and civilian population from Israel's ongoing occupation and acts of aggression.

The establishment of a protection system for the people of Palestine is commensurate with the objectives and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the responsibility of the international community under international law and international humanitarian law, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention and the First Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions. These norms were upheld in numerous resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, including resolutions 607 (1988), 608 (1988), 636 (1989), 672 (1990), 681 (1990), 694 (1991) and 699 (1991).

I urge you, Mr. Secretary, to take all of the effective measures required to establish a protection system for Palestine, with the aim of ensuring the protection of the Palestinian people from the Israeli aggression, continued occupation and violation of international law, in particular its escalation and its bombardments against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud **Abbas**
President of the State of Palestine
Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee

United Nations S/2014/515

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2014

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 2113 (2013), by which the Council requested me to report every 90 days on the implementation of the mandate of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The report provides an update and analysis of the situation in Darfur for the period from the date of my previous report, 15 April 2014 (S/2014/279), until 15 July 2014, as well as an update on the progress achieved towards the revised benchmarks endorsed by the Council in its resolution 2148 (2014) and the streamlining of UNAMID. It also provides recommendations on the further extension of the UNAMID mandate, which is due to expire, in accordance with resolution 2113 (2013), on 31 August 2014.

II. Overview and analysis of the conflict dynamics and operating environment in Darfur

A. Analysis of the current trends and conflict dynamics in Darfur

2. The reporting period was marked by continued clashes between Government forces and rebel groups, tensions between tribes and an increase in criminality, with a significant impact on the civilian population, especially in North, Central and South Darfur. Following successive weeks of continued degradation of the security situation and attacks against civilians in the first trimester of 2014, violence decreased considerably in May before rising again in mid-June. The operations of the Rapid Support Forces were considerably reduced during the reporting period.

Fighting between Government forces and rebel groups

3. In North Darfur, local sources reported that on 7 April, air strikes by the Sudanese Armed Forces hit the village of Lill near Um Baru, killing one civilian and injuring eight others. It was also reported that on 26 April, an air strike on the village of Orschi resulted in the deaths of three civilians and the destruction of a water point, market and school. On 8 and 28 April, the Sudanese Armed Forces reportedly targeted elements of the Sudanese Revolutionary Front with air strikes on the villages of Kunjara, Tarne and Thabit.

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4. In Central Darfur, reports were received of air strikes by the Sudanese Armed Forces on 26 April on the villages of Noume, Tagora and Tajina. This followed air strikes on the villages of Ro Fata, Logu and Osajiang in March. On 28 April, the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid (SLA-AW) reportedly attacked a Sudanese Armed Forces camp in the town of Rockero. In the ensuing fighting, 7 Government soldiers and 3 SLA-AW elements were reportedly killed and 13 Government soldiers and 18 SLA-AW fighters were injured. On 29 April, Government forces attacked the villages of Kirro, Bardane and Nawni near Golo town in Central Darfur, displacing some 5,000 civilians to neighbouring areas.

5. May and June witnessed a relative lull in the engagement between Government forces and rebel groups. Rebel groups reportedly withdrew from their strongholds in Kutum, Mellit, Korma, Birkat, Tawilla and Thabit in North Darfur; from areas in South Darfur around the village of Menawashi and between Nyala and Graida; towards the north-western part of North Darfur around Um Baru, Muzbat and Wadi Hawar; and from the Jebel Marra.

6. Nonetheless, on 22 May, the Sudan Liberation Army-Mini Minawi (SLA-MM) attacked the villages of Arowsharow and Gosmino (West Darfur), reportedly in retaliation for the arrest of a number of its members by the Sudanese Armed Forces in Jebel Moon on 22 May. On 26 June, a UNAMID patrol at the Fata Borno internally displaced persons camp reported a clash in the village of Goba between SLA-MM and Arab militia, reportedly supported by the Sudanese Armed Forces. The Mission was informed that some four SLA-MM members were killed and 21 SLA-MM vehicles seized by the Sudanese Armed Forces during the attack.

7. On 27 June, two SLA-MM commanders and the leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement for Justice, Ali Karbino, were killed in the Al Quba area, north of Kutum (North Darfur). The Sudanese Armed Forces stated that Karbino's death occurred during the repulsion of an attack led by the rebel leader. SLA-MM issued a statement thereafter confirming the death of Karbino and two of its commanders.

8. While the activities of the Rapid Support Forces in Darfur decreased during the reporting period, on 7 April, the Forces reportedly attacked the villages of Gadara, Bir Maza and Birdik in Kutum (North Darfur). Local sources reported that on 16 April, a Rapid Support Forces convoy attacked the village of Gaoud al-Azraq in Kutum, resulting in civilian deaths and injuries, including children. It was reported that some 110 students and their teachers fled to the town of Kutum on 22 April. After the town was attacked by suspected Arab militia on 28 April, the students and teachers fled to the UNAMID team site at Kutum. The students have since returned to their respective villages.

9. Reports indicate that the Rapid Support Forces returned to their barracks near Nyala in April. While in May, civilians and internally displaced persons in Nyala raised concerns about reports that the Governor of South Darfur had established a Rapid Support Forces administrative and logistic base in Nyala, near the Dereig internally displaced persons camp, the Governor of South Darfur denied those reports to UNAMID. On 27 May, elements of the Rapid Support Forces staged a protest over delays in the payment of their salaries. They fired shots in the air, carjacked private vehicles and robbed civilians of personal belongings. The authorities dispersed the protesters, recovered the vehicles and arrested the perpetrators. In early June, medical staff at the Nyala Teaching Hospital went on strike over harassment by members of the Rapid Support Forces. In response, the

South Darfur Security Committee issued a decree directing the Forces to avail themselves of medical services from police and military hospitals and prohibiting its members from entering the Nyala Teaching Hospital.

Activities of Government-aligned militia

10. During the reporting period, Arab militia continued to support Government offensives against rebel groups. Some 45 incidents of attacks and criminality reportedly involving Arab militia were observed. The attacks were characterized by incidents of killings, rape, burning of houses and looting of livestock.

11. Thirty of the attacks occurred in North Darfur, with 15 of them targeting several villages in Korma, one of the localities hardest hit by Government military operations against SLA-MM in early 2014. An inter-agency assessment mission to Korma on 11 June confirmed that 14,160 new internally displaced persons sought refuge at the UNAMID Korma team site from 5 to 7 June. This is in addition to the 7,160 people displaced to the team site during the attacks by the Rapid Support Forces in East Korma in the first quarter of 2014. The Kutumarea was also attacked at least seven times by Arab militia during the reporting period.

12. In South Darfur, six attacks mainly targeting internally displaced persons were reported by affected communities. On 23 and 27 April, 127 families fled to the Kassab internally displaced persons camp from villages around Wadi Innaam after continuous attacks by Arab militia. An estimated 700 families from 18 villages arrived in the El Salam internally displaced persons camp in El Fasher between 24 March and 1 April after attacks by Arab militia reportedly supported by the Rapid Support Forces. UNAMID was later informed by the new arrivals that a substantial number of internally displaced persons fleeing those attacks remained in the villages of Shagra, Abu Degais and Um Hajalij. While Government authorities insisted that the attacks were aimed at dislodging rebel groups from those areas, local sources informed UNAMID that civilians were targeted, apparently with the objective of depriving the rebels of any support bases in civilian areas.

Local violence and intercommunal conflict

13. During the reporting period, civilians suffered from an increase in tribal fighting, mainly among Arab pastoralists, with 24 reported confrontations and 93 confirmed deaths compared with 16 incidents and 80 deaths in the previous reporting period. Tensions between tribes were such that relatively minor events led to large numbers of casualties. The triggers were usually related to community quarrels, owing to underlying grievances about land and resources, in an environment of weakened traditional authority and State authority. The most significant tribal clashes involved the Ma'alia and Southern Rizeigat in East Darfur; the Ma'alia and Hamar on the border between East Darfur and West Kordofan; the Northern Rizeigat and the Beni Hussein in North Darfur; and the Salamat and Misseriya in Central Darfur. The Ma'alia and Southern Rizeigat clashed three times in May in the localities of Adilla and Abu Jabra (East Darfur) over theft of livestock, resulting in the death of six Southern Rizeigat and seven Ma'alia tribesmen. On 5 July, renewed tribal clashes between the Southern Rezeigat and Ma'alia tribes in the village of Al Fadul in the vicinity of El Daein (South Darfur) resulted in the killing of 18 persons from the Rezeigat tribe and an unconfirmed number of Ma'alia. UNAMID engaged leaders of both communities at the state and Khartoum

levels, including their respective Shura Councils. State authorities also deployed Government forces in the area.

14. Fighting between the Ma'alia and Hamar erupted on 22 May in the village of El Guruf (East Darfur) when a Hamar tribesman was arrested and handed over to the Sudanese Armed Forces on charges of trespassing on a Ma'alia cattle farm. The incident resulted in the death of 20 people and the injury of 16 others. On 30 June and 1 July, UNAMID received reports of renewed clashes between the Ma'alia and Hamar in the border area between East Darfur and West Kordofan, reportedly owing to Ma'alia rustling of Hamar cattle. The incident resulted in the death of 4 Ma'alia and the injury of 29 others and an unconfirmed number of Hamar casualties. Local sources confirmed that following the intervention of East Darfur State authorities, through the deployment of Government forces in the area, the situation stabilized. The Mission also engaged youth leaders to de-escalate the situation. The two communities have agreed to continue talks in July and August to resolve outstanding disputes.

15. Renewed fighting and retaliatory attacks between the Northern Rizeigat and the Beni Hussein in El Sireif locality, North Darfur, included at least 10 attacks, 7 of which were launched by the Northern Rizeigat and 3 by the Beni Hussein, resulting in 26 deaths of Beni Hussein and an unknown number of casualties among the Northern Rizeigat. Clashes were triggered by cattle rustling and retaliatory attacks. From April to June, the El Sireif-Kabkabiya-Saraf Umra road was blocked by the Northern Rizeigat to prevent Beni Hussein movement. Following renewed fighting over stolen livestock between the two communities, 13 Beni Hussein were killed and at least 23 injured in Siriki on 26 June. An unknown number of Northern Rizeigat casualties were reportedly taken to Saraf Umra. To draw the Government's attention to the fighting and increase in killings and attacks in El Sereif locality, Beni Hussein community members demonstrated in front of the National Assembly in Khartoum on 29 June and submitted a memorandum stating that 1,013 people had been killed and 700 injured since the escalation in violence in 2013.

16. In Central Darfur, the Salamat and Misseriya tribes clashed repeatedly between 19 and 23 June in locations near Um Dukhun and Mukjar over competing land and resources claims. The violence resulted in a large number of casualties on both sides. In the village of Salayle in Um Dukhun, on 19 June, four Misseriya and six Salamat tribesmen were killed and six others injured following the rustling of about 300 livestock belonging to the Misseriya. In a related incident in the Mukjar market on 20 June, Misseriya elements allegedly opened fire, killing three Salamat. In retaliation, Salamat elements reportedly killed two Misseriya. Humanitarian agencies from Um Dukhun informed UNAMID that on 21 June, at Muradaf, at least 10 Misseriya were killed and 10 injured during clashes with the Salamat. As a result of the conflict, some 3,700 civilians fled towards Chad; since that time, most have returned to Um Dukhun. The Mission received reports that on 23 June, on the orders of the Central Darfur authorities, Government authorities arrested 102 local leaders of the Misseriya and Salamat from Zalingei and four other localities (Wadi Salih, Mukjar, Bendisi and Um Dukhun) in an attempt to de-escalate tensions.

Increase in criminality and banditry

17. Economic stress and the competition over resources continued to exacerbate the security situation and led to an increase in criminality and banditry in Darfur during the reporting period. In addition, the withdrawal of Sudanese Revolutionary Front elements from their strongholds, in particular in Kutum, Mellit, Korma, Birkat, Tawilla and Thabit in North Darfur and around Menawashi and between Nyala and Graida in South Darfur, provided criminal groups and other unidentified armed elements the opportunity to expand control over those locations through continuous intimidation and attacks against the civilian population.

18. Criminal activities included attacks on villages, rapes, hijacking and abduction. Recorded crimes increased from 331 cases in the previous reporting period to 422 cases in the current period. Several alleged cases of abductions of internally displaced persons by criminal groups were recorded. Most of the incidents occurred in areas located near the perimeter of the internally displaced persons camps.

B. Humanitarian situation

19. Despite multiple challenges, humanitarian access improved in April and May compared with the first quarter of 2014. Humanitarian agencies were able to reach most of the areas affected by fighting and tribal clashes after sustained advocacy with state authorities. These include El Lait and El Taweisha localities (North Darfur) and some villages in South Darfur affected by hostilities in the first quarter of 2014. About 80 per cent of newly displaced persons received emergency assistance from contingency and pre-positioned stocks. Altogether, more than 20 inter-agency assessment missions were conducted during the reporting period.

20. The number of people estimated to have been displaced by conflict in Darfur since the beginning of the year increased from 250,000 in the previous reporting period to 385,000 in the current period. Of those, an estimated 258,000 people remained displaced at the time of reporting, alongside more than 2 million long-term internally displaced persons.

21. Humanitarian needs generated by this new displacement come on top of the needs of some 2.5 million internally displaced persons, 1.7 million of whom live in camps, displaced by a conflict that has lasted over 11 years. It also comes at a time of increasing food insecurity across the Sudan, with 5 million people estimated to be experiencing varying levels of food insecurity. The majority of the newly displaced people moved into existing camps and settlements, where services were in many cases already stretched owing to the reduced presence of humanitarian actors, funding shortfalls and insecurity.

22. Despite some improvement in access, the fragile security environment continued to impede the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance and the protection of civilians. Assistance for some 27,000 people was temporarily suspended at the end of May in the Bileil camp in South Darfur owing to the looting of health and nutrition facilities in the camp by unknown armed men. Verification activities in the El Salam camp in South Darfur by the International Organization for Migration were also temporarily suspended for security reasons. A clinic managed by an international non-governmental organization in Central Darfur was

robbed in early May. That same month, three international non-governmental organization vehicles were carjacked and a truck contracted by the World Food Programme (WFP) was ransacked in East Darfur by unidentified armed men.

23. The two-month blockade by the Northern Rizeigat of the road connecting El Sireif with Saraf Umra, Kabkabiya and Tine prevented the movement of goods into El Sireif, further exacerbating rising food prices and contributing to the deterioration of the nutrition situation. Humanitarian actors had to devise alternative arrangements to deliver humanitarian aid, mainly through commercial transporters and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service.

C. Operating environment

24. Restrictions of movement of UNAMID decreased considerably during the reporting period. Between 1 April and 30 June, UNAMID land movements were restricted on 21 occasions, compared with 72 restrictions in the previous reporting period. Restrictions were highest in East Darfur. The authorities also denied 15 of 3,432 planned flights compared with 72 of 4,386 planned flights in the previous period.

25. On 1 June, a UNAMID MI-8 flight carrying a delegation of Sudanese officials landed at the authorized location in Tawisha (North Darfur). Following the disembarking of Government officials, three Government personnel forced the pilot and the crew at gunpoint to re-enter the aircraft, restart its engines and fly to a nearby location that was not an authorized landing site for civilian aircraft. The Mission formally protested the incident, which constituted a grave violation of the status-of-forces agreement and international civil aviation rules and regulations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs responded to the Mission's protests by denying that the perpetrators were Government officials.

26. During the reporting period, UNAMID and humanitarian organizations experienced a total of 11 carjacking incidents and 65 house break-ins and robberies compared with 47 in the previous period. On 10 April, five armed men broke into the private residence of UNAMID women police advisers and robbed them of cash and other personal items. One of the police advisers was assaulted by the perpetrators. The Government of the Sudan police apprehended three of the perpetrators and recovered some of the stolen items. The Special Criminal Court for Darfur Crimes commenced trial proceedings for three suspects on 15 June. UNAMID is monitoring the proceedings.

27. A UNAMID soldier kidnapped on 9 March in Nyala was released on 30 April and a civilian UNAMID contractor kidnapped in El Fasher on 11 March was released on 12 June. UNAMID expressed gratitude to the Government of the Sudan for its valuable assistance in these safe releases.

28. Humanitarian actors continued to face delivery challenges owing, inter alia, to the activities of criminal elements. On 18 June, armed men abducted five non-governmental organization and international non-governmental organization staff members and one United Nations agency staff member who were travelling to the Kutum team site helipad to catch a United Nations Humanitarian Air Service flight. On 18 June, 14 non-governmental organization and international non-governmental organization staff members were abducted at the Karakasaya area

in Kutum. Shortly thereafter on the same day, an additional three non-governmental organization staff members were abducted in the area. Eighteen non-governmental organization and international non-governmental organization staff members were released on 18 June and two others on 2 July. On 18 July, the last three staff members (one from the United Nations and two from international non-governmental organizations) remaining in captivity were released as a result of joint efforts by UNAMID and local authorities. The United Nations is grateful for the assistance of the Government of the Sudan in the release of these personnel.

29. During the reporting period, certain areas remained completely cut off from assistance, in particular Hashaba North in Kutum, North Darfur, and the eastern part of the Jebel Marra mountains spanning Central and North Darfur. The suspension of operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross in February created significant gaps in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and in food security and livelihood services for an estimated 100,000 people in the Jebel Marra area. About 49,000 people in need of assistance in Adilla and Abu Karinka in East Darfur have remained inaccessible since August 2013. The withdrawal in May of an international non-governmental organization from West, South and East Darfur left gaps in health and nutrition assistance.

30. During the reporting period, the Government of the Sudan issued 510 entry visas for UNAMID personnel. This included 7 civilian personnel, 188 military, 3 police, 172 contractors, 120 official visitors and 20 dependants of Khartoum-based staff. As at 30 June, 34 visas were pending, including for one civilian staff member, two United Nations Volunteers (UNVs), 25 military personnel, three contractors and three official visitors. The Government of the Sudan recently rejected four entry visas for senior staff members without providing justification. In addition, the Government has suspended all UNV visa requests and no entry visas for UNVs were processed in 2014. UNAMID has raised this issue at several tripartite meetings. The Government has informed UNAMID that in its view, nationals should be considered for the UNV posts.

31. With regard to the 43 military and police units currently deployed to UNAMID, 15 have achieved an equipment serviceability rate of 90 per cent. Unfortunately, the serviceability rate of three units has fallen below 50 per cent. Shortfalls in contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment, especially in the areas of catering, communications and level-1 medical capacities, put a burden on the Mission's resources and limit the much-needed temporary deployment capability of the troop-contributing countries. Moreover, continued shortfalls in major equipment, mainly armoured personnel carriers, undermine the effectiveness of UNAMID military operations, including long-range patrols crucial to the protection of civilians in remote localities.

32. UNAMID and the Secretariat continue to engage with both troop- and police-contributing countries to rectify all contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment shortfalls. A biweekly coordination mechanism with all stakeholders has been established to review progress, identify the bottlenecks and expedite the deployment of all the required but missing equipment. While some progress has been made in addressing the shortfalls, several troop- and police-contributing countries have yet to fulfil their agreed memorandum of understanding commitments. Additionally, efforts are also being made by the Mission to expedite approvals by the Government of the Sudan for the deployment of contingent-owned

equipment. As a result of these efforts, a serviceability ratio of 96 per cent and 81 per cent for armoured personnel carriers has been achieved in Sector North and Sector West respectively. The Mission and the Secretariat are closely monitoring the progress in Sector South, where the serviceability ratio is 70 per cent.

III. Achievements and impact of the Mission

33. During the reporting period, the Mission continued to focus its activities on the three strategic priorities reflected in its revised benchmarks (see S/2014/279) endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 2148 (2014).

A. Inclusive peace process

34. The African Union and United Nations Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, continued to engage regularly with senior officials of the Government of the Sudan on the imperative need for direct negotiations. In these discussions, the Government underscored its commitment to a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Darfur. The Joint Special Representative/Joint Special Mediator also held consultations with officials of the Government's committee for outreach to non-signatory movements to the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur to discuss ways of bringing the rebel groups into the peace process and the potential that the proposed national dialogue initiative put forward by the Government might have on durable peace in Darfur.

35. In his interventions with Government officials, the Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator stressed that it was important for the Government to ensure that the four key freedoms enabling a conducive environment for the national dialogue were respected, namely: (a) freedom for political parties to carry out their activities, in accordance with the law; (b) freedom of the press, provided it commits to the Sudan's media code of ethics; (c) the release of political detainees, provided they are not facing pre-existing criminal charges; and (d) assurances that the rebel groups can participate in the national dialogue preparations freely and with security guarantees.

36. The Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator consistently called upon the armed movements to join the peace process. He encouraged them to utilize the national dialogue as a platform to promote their proposal for a holistic approach to the settlement of the conflict and challenges facing the Sudan. On 13 April, the Sudanese Revolutionary Front issued a road map to comprehensive political settlement in the Sudan, in which it reiterated its call for a holistic approach to settling the conflicts in the Sudan and bringing democratic change to the country. It urged the Government to create a conducive environment for national dialogue and to introduce confidence-building measures that include protection of civilians in regions of conflict, a negotiated cessation of hostilities, including an agreement on unhindered humanitarian access to all conflict areas, and the holding of a preparatory conference outside the Sudan for all stakeholders to discuss the modalities for the national dialogue. They suggested that a preparatory conference could be held under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and UNAMID.

37. On 5 May, the Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator and the African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security met the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs of Qatar. They reiterated their commitment to work closely together in facilitating discussions on the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur.

Implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur

38. Some progress was made towards the implementation of the provisions of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. During the reporting period, in a meeting between the Government of the Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement-Sudan (JEM-Sudan) convened by the Ceasefire Commission on 18 May, JEM-Sudan committed to commence a troop verification exercise and to submit the location of its troops to the Ceasefire Commission. On 4 June, one battalion of JEM-Sudan combatants, mainly from Tine and Kornoi in North Darfur, arrived in El Fasher to prepare for their encampment. JEM-Sudan is now fully represented in the Implementation Follow-up Commission, the Ceasefire Commission and the Joint Commission.

39. The Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement also met on 13 April and 19 May, under the auspices of the Ceasefire Commission, to assess progress towards the integration of 2,430 of the Movement's combatants into the Sudanese Armed Forces and the police, as agreed at the meeting of the Joint Commission held on 25 February in Khartoum. Encampment barracks in South Darfur for Liberation and Justice Movement combatants have been prepared by the Government of the Sudan and verified by UNAMID. The Government also earmarked the required funding for integration activities in its 2014 budget. However, the Movement has yet to submit the disposition of the 2,430 combatants.

40. In addition to the progress on the security arrangements, on 26 May, the Implementation Committee of the Darfur internal dialogue and consultation was officially launched in El Fasher. The 17-member Committee comprises figures who were identified following extensive consultations by the dialogue and consultation facilitators. The Committee will govern and implement the dialogue and consultation process, chair and oversee the dialogue and consultations, ensure inclusivity and transparency of the process, and undertake technical and logistical preparations with support from UNAMID. However, prevailing insecurity, lack of adequate funding and intimidation of participants are concerns that could undermine effective implementation of the Darfur internal dialogue and consultation. The body's secretariat raised these concerns with the Implementation Committee, which plans to visit all Darfur state capitals in August 2014 to bring these challenges to the attention of state officials. The Darfur internal dialogue and consultation is estimated to cost $7 million, to be funded by voluntary contributions through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). To date, Qatar has pledged $1.7 million as seed money.

41. On 15 June, the Darfur Regional Authority inaugurated the Justice, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, one of the key institutions of the Darfur internal dialogue and consultation. Established by presidential decree, the Commission is to assess the root causes of the conflict in Darfur and address issues related to the reparation of victims and impunity as part of a wider process of building peace and reconciliation. It is comprised of the Justice Committee, which has 22 members,

mostly lawyers, politicians and the Native Administration, and the Truth and Reconciliation Committee, which has 26 members and is made up of tribal leaders. Both Committees were formally launched on 22 June. The Commission includes five women members.

42. As part of its efforts to enhance the technical capacity of Darfur Regional Authority institutions, UNAMID conducted four training workshops on geographical information systems and remote sensing as well as geographical positioning systems and map reading for officials of the Darfur Land Commission. The skills and knowledge gained will inform the implementation of the Commission's project on a natural resources and land use database and mapping of Darfur that will be the basis of land use laws and policies, as well as institutional and technical capacity needed for sustainable management of Darfur's natural resources.

43. UNAMID and the Darfur Regional Authority also commenced technical and legal arrangements for the joint broadcast of radio programmes. The initiative will enable the Authority to utilize UNAMID infrastructure, while at the same time providing UNAMID with the platform to run three-hour daily live broadcasts during primetime.

44. There has also been some progress in the implementation of the Darfur Development Strategy. At the second meeting of the Strategy's Executive Board, held in El Fasher on 27 April, the Government of Qatar confirmed its pledge of $88.5 million to finance the Strategy's foundational and short-term projects. This commitment was signed between the Government of Qatar and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Sudan on 27 April. Out of the total amount, $10 million was transferred to the Darfur Reconstruction and Development Fund ahead of the meeting, providing it with its first contribution.

B. Protection of civilians

Provision of physical protection

45. During the reporting period, UNAMID continued to provide physical protection to over 50,000 civilians who sought refuge around its team sites following the hostilities in the first quarter of 2014, largely in Korma, Khor Abeche, Labado and Mellit.

46. In Khor Abeche, the Mission constructed a buffer zone near its team site to accommodate internally displaced persons and enhanced its patrols around the newly constructed protection site. The Mission also facilitated a mediation process between the Khor Abeche internally displaced persons and the communities of Neteaga (South Darfur), which led to the release, on 17 April, of three internally displaced persons abducted by members of the Misseriya community in March. In Korma (North Darfur), UNAMID enhanced security and confidence-building patrols around the team site in the light of the influx of newly displaced persons. The Mission also provided security and logistical support for the delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance to displaced persons around the team site.

47. During the reporting period, the Mission prevented two attacks on civilians by armed elements. On 5 April, a UNAMID escort convoy successfully repelled an ambush by an unidentified armed group near the Sindi exchange point in North

Darfur. On 7 May, a quick reaction force was deployed to the Kalma internally displaced persons camp in response to reports by the community policing centre of shots being fired in the vicinity of the camp by Arab nomads on horseback, motorbikes and a vehicle mounted with a machine gun. The nomads fled upon arrival of the quick reaction force. The situation was stabilized after UNAMID intensified patrols in the area.

48. On 24 May, UNAMID troops intervened to protect civilians at the Birgi market in Kabkabiya from a group of 60 Arab militiamen. In that regard, following altercations between Fur tribesmen from the village of Al Salam and the Arab militiamen, the peacekeepers intervened to facilitate a mediation meeting. The Arab militia nevertheless became hostile and started shooting at the peacekeepers, at which point they returned fire. As a result of the ensuing fighting, four Rwandan peacekeepers were wounded, one of whom died from his injuries. The fighting left an unconfirmed number of casualties among the militia group. The Mission's response and steps taken to defuse the tensions have been key factors in controlling the situation and preventing an escalation.

Logistic and security support to humanitarian operations

49. During the reporting period, UNAMID continued to provide military escorts to WFP humanitarian aid convoys in Darfur. Between April and June 2014, 4,767 metric tons of food and 24.62 metric tons of non-food items were escorted to various locations. This work was enhanced by the co-location of WFP logistic officers with UNAMID to ensure timely delivery of food and non-food items to beneficiaries across Darfur.

50. The efforts of UNAMID and the United Nations country team to stabilize the situation in and around Saraf Umra led to the successful return of 66,473 people to their places of origin. Moreover, during the reporting period, nine medical evacuations of internally displaced persons in critical condition were carried out, and on 30 June, 11 critically injured people were evacuated from El Sireif to El Fasher following the clashes between the Beni Hussein and the Northern Rizeigat.

51. In collaboration with local non-governmental organizations, WFP concluded rapid food distribution on 22 June at the Korma team site while the World Health Organization (WHO) and the State Ministry of Health established a temporary health clinic at the site. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) distributed non-food items to 7,160 persons displaced in March and made arrangements to provide for newly displaced persons.

52. Humanitarian actors carried out an inter-agency mission to Nertiti and Guldo in Central Darfur from 29 June to 1 July. This followed an earlier visit to Guldo and Gornei on 17 June, during which a lack of basic services and rising commodity prices owing to intermittent intercommunal tensions, road blockades and protection fees at checkpoints were observed. The area has remained inaccessible to UNAMID and humanitarian actors since 2011 owing to a combination of factors, including restrictions by the Government, clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and SLA-AW elements, as well as the rugged geography of the site. The joint assessment mission found that nearly all the 30,000 internally displaced persons who had fled from Guldo and Golo to Nertiti town during the December 2012 clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and SLA-AW had returned to the area. The last food distribution in the area took place in June 2013. Following the visit,

humanitarian actors started preparations to resume activities in the area. The mission to Guldo represents significant progress with regard to humanitarian access in the Jebel Marra area. Follow-up missions are planned to other localities, including Golo and Rockero, which are under Government control, with a presence of rebel groups in the surrounding areas.

Protective environment

53. The protective environment remained tenuous, as intercommunal conflict and criminality continued to affect vulnerable civilians. During the reporting period, UNAMID military personnel conducted 13,511 patrols, including 7,063 routine patrols, 2,485 night patrols, 1,162 administrative patrols, 1,240 humanitarian escorts, 1,241 short-range patrols and 320 long-range patrols. UNAMID police conducted a total of 7,253 patrols, including 3,911 inside internally displaced persons camps, 254 firewood and farm patrols, 3,043 patrols in villages, towns and markets, 873 medium-range patrols and 259 long-range patrols.

54. The Mission continued its efforts to support the capacity-building of Government police in the areas of crime investigation, crime scene management, public order, detention and treatment of suspects and community policing.

55. In collaboration with the United Nations Mine Action Service, UNAMID assessed 887 km of routes, surveyed 73 villages covering 164 square km and destroyed 725 items of unexploded ordnance and 8,314 small arms ammunition during the reporting period. Education on the risks of explosive remnants of war was also provided to over 60,000 internally displaced persons. Four million people were expected to have been reached through radio messages. A pilot explosive ordnance disposal course was conducted for 20 Government police personnel and operations and quality management training was provided for personnel of the National Mine Action Authority.

56. The Mission documented 209 human rights violations and abuses involving 484 victims, compared with 156 incidents involving 314 victims in the previous reporting period. Of the 209 documented cases, 54 cases and 88 victims involved violations of the right to life, 95 cases and 276 victims involved violations of the right to physical integrity (including 17 cases and 55 victims of abduction), and 2 cases and 17 victims involved arbitrary arrests and detentions. The majority of perpetrators were identified as belonging to the Government security services or members of armed movements. Some were described by the victims as "armed men" and "militia groups".

57. Accountability for human rights violations and abuses continued to be undermined by a number of factors, including weak justice and law enforcement systems, the absence of local police in some areas, lack of confidence in Government authorities or fear of reprisals, as cited by some of the victims. Of the 209 cases recorded by UNAMID, only 96 were reported to Government authorities. Investigations were initiated in 39 cases, leading to 15 arrests, with six arrested perpetrators eventually released on bail.

58. On 19 June, the United Nations Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan met with various stakeholders in El Fasher, including the UNAMID leadership, as part of consultations before submitting his report to the Human Rights Council in September.

59. Sexual and gender-based violence remained a pervasive feature of the conflict in Darfur. UNAMID documented 58 cases of sexual and gender-based violence involving 103 victims (27 minors), an increase from 35 cases involving 53 victims in the previous reporting period. The majority of the victims were internally displaced persons. Of the 58 cases recorded by UNAMID, 20 were alleged to have been perpetrated by members of the Government's forces. All but 2 of the 58 cases involved armed perpetrators. Most of the victims were attacked while collecting firewood and engaging in livelihood activities. Of the 58 incidents, 30 were reported to have been perpetrated by Government police. Investigations were initiated in 19 cases, leading to 10 arrests, with four alleged perpetrators released on bail. In one case, a member of the internally displaced persons community police in the Hujaj camp in West Darfur, who had received UNAMID training on community policing, successfully apprehended a man who was attempting to rape an internally displaced person and handed him over to Government police. UNAMID continued a number of training activities and workshops in internally displaced persons camps to raise awareness on sexual and gender-based violence.

60. With regard to child protection issues, collaboration between State authorities and the United Nations country team on child protection issues was further strengthened during the reporting period through 15 child protection working groups and other advocacy meetings, which served to promote local ownership of the protection agenda for children.

61. UNAMID also continued to provide capacity-building on international human rights standards, including training for Government and civil society representatives. In that regard, during the reporting period, the Zalingei prison in Central Darfur instituted systems to ensure compliance with human rights standards in the treatment of prisoners. In its efforts to support the strengthening of the corrections system, UNAMID trained a total of 146 newly recruited prison officers in basic prison duties, riot control, documentation and record-keeping.

62. Regarding the investigation and prosecution of those responsible for the attacks on civilians in North and South Darfur in February and March, the General Prosecutor informed UNAMID that 1,000 cases had been registered in both states, 6 of which had been referred to the Special Court. The Mission provided logistical support for the Prosecutors' missions in various locations in Darfur to investigate crimes.

63. As part of its efforts to increase access to and build the capacity of rule of law institutions, the Mission completed five quick-impact projects through which it rehabilitated the infrastructure of Government police and victims support centres in East and Central Darfur, as well as the Malha Rural Court in North Darfur. The rural court will provide access to the judicial system to a population of over 150,000 people.

64. UNAMID continued to help to mitigate violence and stabilize communities through the implementation of community-based labour-intensive projects. Twenty-six new projects were approved for the fiscal year 2013-2014, all of which are under implementation. The projects targeted approximately 4,000 at-risk youths, with up to 70,000 local community members benefiting from rehabilitation or construction activities. Needs assessments for new projects to be implemented in the fiscal year 2014-2015 are ongoing.

C. Prevention and mitigation of community conflict

65. In response to renewed fighting between the Northern Rezeigat and the Beni Hussein in April and May, the Mission engaged tribal leaders from both sides, as well as local and state authorities and Sudanese security agencies, to contain the conflict. From 5 to 7 June, the Mission provided technical and logistical support to a reconciliation conference conducted by the Native Administration and the *Ajaweed* (mediation) Council for over 250 participants, including tribal leaders and government officials, from El Sereif, Saraf Umra and Kabkabiya localities. The conference brokered the release on 7 June of seven Beni Hussein tribesmen abducted by members of the Northern Rizeigat tribe on 26 May and established committees to strengthen existing reconciliation mechanisms.

66. UNAMID continued to support the efforts of the *Ajaweed* Council to resolve the conflict between the Ma'alia and the Southern Rizeigat in East Darfur. In efforts to reconcile the two tribes, the Mission engaged with the *nazir* (traditional chief) of the Ma'alia to encourage adherence to the cessation of hostilities agreement signed with the Southern Rizeigat in August 2013 and to initiate a reconciliation conference. To that end, UNAMID provided technical support to a series of peaceful coexistence campaigns launched by the young people of the Ma'alia and the Southern Rizeigat tribes. A reconciliation conference between the two tribes commenced on 10 June in Al Foula, West Kordofan State, with support from UNAMID, the *Ajaweed* Council and local authorities. The conference focused on the need for Government security forces to strengthen the monitoring of the cessation of hostilities agreement in order to prevent a return to conflict, and to ensure the permanent opening of the El Daein-Khartoum road.

67. In Central Darfur, the killing of an Ereigat tribesman by the Nawaiba in Nertiti locality on 3 April created tensions between the two communities. In an effort to de-escalate tension, UNAMID provided technical support to a mediation process led by the *Ajaweed* Council on 5 and 10 April. On 15 April, both tribes welcomed the outcome of the mediation, thus ending weeks of tension.

68. As noted in paragraph 16 above, following clashes between Misseriya and Salamat communities in Um Dukhun and Mukjar (Central Darfur) from 19 to 27 June, local authorities deployed forces to the area and arrested over 100 persons from both communities accused of fomenting the clashes. UNAMID continues to support and engage Government authorities and local authorities of both communities on the root causes of the conflict and to encourage the implementation of the July 2013 cessation of hostilities agreement.

69. UNAMID also continued to engage Government institutions, the Native Administration, local peaceful coexistence committees and agriculture protection committees to prevent and mitigate intercommunal conflicts. Six conferences on peaceful coexistence were organized in West, East and Central Darfur, leading to concrete plans to open nomadic migratory routes in these areas, thereby facilitating smooth seasonal migration and reducing conflicts between pastoralists and farmers. UNAMID, in collaboration with the Tawaf al-Rahil Organization, a local non-governmental organization, facilitated 11 youth-led peace campaigns with over 1,500 participants in different nomadic settlements in Kutum, Kabkabiya and Saraf Umra localities to promote peaceful coexistence, social cohesion and the role of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms.

70. Between April and June, UNAMID conducted eight workshops on strengthening traditional conflict resolution mechanisms for 320 participants in all Darfur states. Four workshops on the principles of governance in democratic systems were also conducted in East, West and Central Darfur for members of the legislative councils, civil society organizations and other stakeholders. In North Darfur, UNAMID facilitated a dialogue session for local government officials on the establishment of a transparent, accountable and inclusive local civil administration in Darfur. These initiatives are expected to enhance local capacities in preventing and mitigating conflicts and in promoting inclusive governance.

IV. Implementation of the strategic review

71. In accordance with the strategic priorities of the Mission outlined in my report of 25 February 2014 (S/2014/138), UNAMID has taken concrete measures to refocus its activities and resources to achieve greater effectiveness and cost-efficiency. These measures include the implementation of revised standard operating procedures to enhance capacity for physical protection, in particular in respect of the military and police components, and to increase the robustness of the Force and formed police units. In addition, the Force headquarters has stepped up its efforts to monitor team site operational readiness and has developed guidelines for protection actions under different scenarios.

72. In addition, UNAMID continues to increase and strengthen its coordination and collaboration with the United Nations country team. UNAMID police have identified areas of coordination in seven programmes, which have been jointly developed with the country team, for Government police capacity-building and community-oriented policing in furtherance of the memorandum of understanding between UNAMID and the Ministry of the Interior on police development. UNAMID is encouraging its national counterpart to nominate members of police development committees at the national, state and local levels to facilitate the implementation of these programmes. Efforts are also under way to improve the effectiveness and impact of escorts for humanitarian agencies. UNAMID and the country team have also nearly completed work on the revised integrated strategic framework, which should help to maximize United Nations resources dedicated to programmes of mutual concern. A comprehensive revision of the mission concept is also under way in support of the effective implementation of the Mission's strategic priorities.

73. Planning and implementation structures are being strengthened to enhance coordination, monitoring and reporting of Mission activities at all levels. Notes verbales documenting access restrictions that impede UNAMID from fully implementing its mandate are now being submitted on a monthly basis to the Government, reminding it of its obligation regarding the freedom of movement of UNAMID personnel.

74. With regard to the implementation of the first phase of the streamlining exercise, as outlined in my previous report, the restructuring of the military component is ongoing in the five sectors. The heavy transport company (155) ceased operations on 30 June and will be repatriated by the end of July. The military is in the process of reducing its staff by 200 staff officers, liaison officers and

military observers, 121 of whom will leave by December 2014, 59 by March 2015 and the final 20 by May 2015.

75. The police component was reduced by 723 individual police officers in May 2014, while skills profiles were conducted in accordance with the restructuring and revised selection processes in order to identify the right skills for new arrivals. Three of the four formed police units that were to be repatriated as part of the streamlining process have departed the Mission area. The fourth will depart by the second week of August 2014. The reduction in civilian posts as part of the first phase of the streamlining exercise will be completed by 31 December, while a recruitment freeze has been instituted in the affected sections.

76. Realignment of the UNAMID civilian staff components within the revised strategic priorities continues. In that connection, phase two of the UNAMID streamlining exercise has focused on the Political Affairs Division, the Joint Mediation Support Team, the Civil Affairs Section, the Human Rights Section, the Rule of Law, Judicial System and Prison Advisory Section, the Public Information Office, the Humanitarian and Protection Strategy Coordination Division and the Joint Support and Coordination Mechanism, as well as the Front Offices of the Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator and his two deputies. The final decisions related to phase two of the streamlining will be taken in July. The results of the third phase will be reflected in my next report and will focus on Mission support, security and the Khartoum Liaison Office.

V. Observations and recommendations

77. The underlying causes of the conflict in Darfur persist and civilians continue to bear the brunt of the hostilities. However, during the reporting period, the security situation improved slightly, as did access for UNAMID and agency personnel. I call upon the Government and armed elements to ensure that these gains are not reversed.

78. Long-term stability in Darfur will require large-scale support for recovery and development. This will go a long way in addressing the underlying causes of tribal conflict and the demands of rebel groups for economic and political parity with other parts of the country. It will also facilitate the return of refugees and internally displaced persons. The United Nations is ready to heed the Government's call for such support. However, there are preconditions. The trends observed in the current reporting period must continue. Secure conditions and access must be strengthened throughout the five states. UNAMID, protection and development actors must enjoy uninhibited access.

79. Despite positive developments in the reporting period, the rights of civilians continue to be threatened by all armed elements, including the Government, rebels, militia, criminals and belligerent tribal elements. The exposure of civilians to wanton killing, sexual abuse, the destruction of their homes and displacement is unacceptable. The Government is primarily responsible for the protection of its citizens and I call upon it to do more to protect the basic rights of the people of Darfur. UNAMID and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes stand ready to support the Government in strengthening its protection capacity. Ending all violence and providing access is the first step.

80. I call upon the Government and non-signatory movements to take advantage of the efforts of my Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator for direct negotiations. In that regard, I welcome the steps taken by the Government towards an inclusive national dialogue. The national dialogue has the potential to offer an opportunity to address political grievances and pave the way for lasting peace throughout the Sudan. The honouring by the Government of its commitment to enable an environment conducive to the national dialogue would constitute a key step towards achieving a credible, transparent and inclusive process.

81. Efforts by the signatory parties, supported by international partners, towards the effective implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur are welcome. In particular, I thank the Government of Qatar for its generous contributions to the implementation of the Doha Document, including for the Darfur internal dialogue and consultation and the Darfur Development Strategy. In that regard, I appreciate the generous contribution made to the Darfur Reconstruction and Development Fund.

82. While progress has been made, more efforts are required to ensure an impact on the ground and in particular to address the conditions of internally displaced persons and other conflict-affected people in Darfur. Concrete measures need to be put in place to expedite the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. I also call upon the parties to the Doha Document to expedite the creation of feasible mechanisms to address intercommunal conflict, to implement the security provisions of the peace framework, and to address issues of justice, protection and economic and social recovery.

83. I am pleased to note that following sustained advocacy by humanitarian actors, state authorities have granted access to most of the areas affected by new displacements, including El Lait and El Taweisha localities in North and South Darfur. I urge the Government of the Sudan to allow unhindered humanitarian access to other areas in North and Central Darfur and eastern Jebel Marra where significant gaps in humanitarian assistance remain, especially in terms of health, water, sanitation, hygiene, food security and livelihood services for an estimated 100,000 people.

84. Despite recent gains, the humanitarian situation in Darfur remains acutely fragile, with significant numbers of displaced persons and others in need of humanitarian assistance. The reduced presence of humanitarian actors has exacerbated the situation. I call upon the Government to ensure that humanitarian actors can operate in Darfur in support of addressing basic needs and upon donors to provide the financial resources necessary to reach those in need.

85. In the past months, UNAMID, with the support of its troop- and police-contributing countries and the United Nations country team, has made significant strides in implementing the recommendations of the strategic review. UNAMID components have been streamlined around the main priorities of the Mission and strategic and operational coordination has been strengthened to ensure that all resources are used for maximum effect on the ground. I commend the leadership of UNAMID for its dedication and commitment in spearheading that process.

86. I believe that the Mission's focus on the three strategic priorities, and the work done to increase their effectiveness, are having an impact on the ground. Our troops and police are becoming more proactive and the work of the various components of

the Mission, including with the United Nations country team, is being streamlined around common actions.

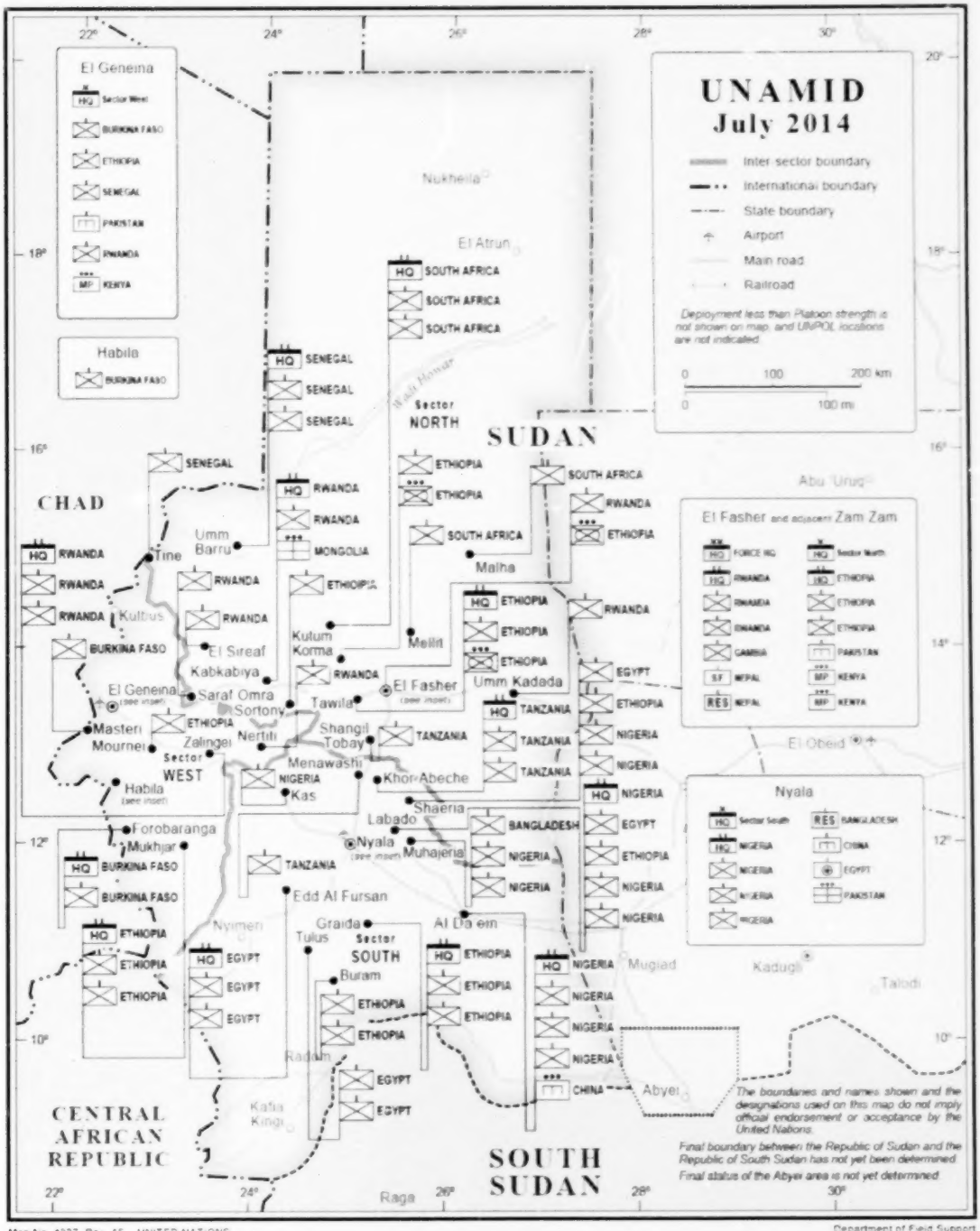
87. I wish to express my deep condolences to the family and the Government of Rwanda for the loss of a Rwandan soldier in Kabkabiya on 24 May. This Rwandan soldier died in the line of duty while taking proactive and robust action to protect civilians. His actions are to be commended.

88. On 30 July 2013, under its resolution 2113 (2013), the Security Council extended the mandate of UNAMID for a period of one year, until 31 August 2014. The Council requested that the United Nations, in consultation with the African Union, conduct a forward-looking review of the implementation of the UNAMID mandate, taking into account developments in Darfur since the Mission was established. It also requested that I submit to the Council a report on the review by February 2014. On 3 April 2014, under its resolution 2148 (2014), the Security Council endorsed the findings of the review, reflected in my report of 25 February 2014 (S/2014/138), and noted its intention to monitor closely the implementation of its recommendations and the streamlining of the Mission. As noted in the same report, I intend to make further recommendations on the configuration of UNAMID in the first quarter of 2015, pending a close examination of the outcome of the first year of work on increasing the Mission's impact and effectiveness.

89. In the meantime, under its Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM. (CDXLVI) of 16 July, adopted following its meeting held on 9 July on the situation in Darfur and the activities of UNAMID, the African Union Peace and Security Council welcomed the progress made in the strategic priority areas of UNAMID and in the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, while calling upon all parties to recommit to finding a peaceful resolution of the conflict, and decided to extend the mandate of UNAMID for a further period of one year. The African Union Peace and Security Council called upon the Security Council to also consider a one-year extension of the mandate of UNAMID. In the light of the progress achieved to date, I recommend that the Security Council consider extending the Mission's mandate until 31 August 2015, without prejudice to any further recommendations I may make following examination of the progress made in the implementation of the findings of the strategic review.

90. In conclusion, I would like to thank the Joint Special Representative/Joint Chief Mediator, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, and all the women and men of UNAMID, who continue to work tirelessly to protect civilians and promote peace in Darfur. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all humanitarian aid workers for their determined efforts to assist and improve the lives of people in need in what are often very challenging conditions in Darfur.

Annex


UNAMID
July 2014
Inter sector boundary
International boundary
State boundary
Airport
Main road
Railroad
Deployment less than Platoon strength is not shown on map, and UNPOL locations are not indicated.
0 100 200 km
0 100 mi
SUDAN
CHAD
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
SOUTH SUDAN
Sector NORTH
Sector WEST
Sector SOUTH
El Geneina
Habila
El Fasher and adjacent Zam Zam
Nyala
Umm Barru
Tine
Kulbus
El Sireaf
Kabkabiya
Saraf Omra
Sortony
Masteri
Mourner
Zalingei
Nertiti
Shangil Tobay
Menawashi
Khor Abeche
Tawila
Kutum
Korma
Melit
Malha
Umm Kadada
Shaeria
Labado
Muhajeria
Forobaranga
Mukhjar
Edd Al Fursan
Graida
Tulus
Buram
Al Da ein
Mugiad
Kadugli
Talodi
Abyei
Nyimeni
Radom
Kafia Kingi
Raga
Nukheila
El Atrun
Wadi Homar
Abu 'Urug
Kas
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.
Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.
Map No. 4027 Rev. 15 UNITED NATIONS July 2014
Department of Field Support Cartographic Section

United Nations S/2014/516

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 18 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), established by the Security Council in its resolution 1996 (2011) and most recently extended by the Council in its resolution 2155 (2014).

Following the usual consultations, I would like to inform you of my intention to appoint Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj (Denmark) as my Special Representative and Head of UNMISS. She will succeed Ms. Hilde Johnson (Norway) who completed her assignment with UNMISS on 7 July 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Ms. Johnson for her dedication and effective leadership.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-58097 (E) 230714

Please recycle

United Nations S/2014/517

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 22 July 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 18 July 2014 (S/2014/516) concerning your intention to appoint Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj (Denmark) as your Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Eugène-Richard **Gasana**
President of the Security Council

14-58099 (E) 230714

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United Nations S/2014/518

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 July 2014

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Abyei

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 24 of Security Council resolution 2156 (2014), in which the Council requested that I continue to inform it of progress made in the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), and to bring to its attention any serious violations of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area (S/2011/384, annex), signed on 20 June 2011. In that connection, the report provides an update on the situation in Abyei and UNISFA operations since my previous report of 13 May 2014 (S/2014/336). In addition, it outlines progress made in the implementation of the additional tasks mandated to UNISFA under Security Council resolution 2024 (2011) related to the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism.

II. Security situation

2. The security situation in Abyei during the period under review was relatively calm, although the underlying conditions remained volatile and unpredictable. The presence of small arms remained prevalent among the civilian population. Between 120 and 150 Sudan oil police force personnel remained deployed in the Diffra oil complex, in violation of the Agreement of 20 June 2011 and multiple Security Council resolutions. UNISFA observed the entry and exit of small numbers of Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) personnel in southern Abyei, also in contravention of existing agreements between the Government of the Sudan and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan.

3. During the reporting period, the Sudan oil police detained two trucks at Diffra, from 15 to 23 June, belonging to a mission contractor transporting water well-drilling equipment. The police cited a lack of valid travel permits on the part of the drivers. The incident constituted a violation of the status-of-forces agreement signed with the Government of the Sudan, which provides for the unrestricted freedom of movement of mission contractors without the need for permits. UNISFA protested the matter with authorities of the Government of the Sudan. On 12 May, UNISFA patrols sighted approximately 20 armed SPLA soldiers, several of whom were in uniform, at a roadside shop near Athony village, southern Abyei. At the urging of the UNISFA troops, the soldiers left the Area and crossed into South Sudan. On

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3 July, a UNISFA patrol to Athony village observed two unarmed SPLA soldiers in the Area. Upon sighting the UNISFA patrol, the soldiers retreated southwards.

4. Several incidents of livestock theft undermined security among the civilian population. On 25 May, UNISFA was informed by Ngok Dinka community members that approximately 10 to 15 armed men, alleged to be Misseriya youths, stole 158 goats and sheep from Dungoup village, central Abyei. UNISFA troops retrieved most of the livestock, along with abandoned ammunition and three rifle magazines approximately 10 km north of Goli town, northern Abyei. The perpetrators could not be located. On 4 June, Ngok Dinka community members reported the theft by unidentified persons of approximately 300 cattle in Rumamier village, 25 km north-east of Agok town. A UNISFA patrol located the cattle nearby and returned them to their owner.

5. On the night of 17 July, unidentified armed assailants shot dead five civilians, injured six civilians and stole approximately 800 cattle in Wunrouk (4 km south-west of Abyei town). A UNISFA patrol dispatched in response to the incident came under fire from the assailants near Nyincour (3 km west of Abyei town). The patrol returned fire. There were no casualties. UNISFA provided medical treatment and evacuated the injured civilians to the Abyei clinic. The livestock were retrieved and returned to their owners. The mission searched for, but was unable to locate, the perpetrators.

6. There were two incidents during the reporting period in which armed assailants attacked youth. On 18 May, two unidentified armed men killed two Ngok Dinka youth near Leu village, 21 km east of Abyei, in a suspected feud over attempted cattle rustling. On 13 June, unidentified assailants, three of whom were armed with AK-47 rifles, killed four Ngok Dinka youths and stole 52 cattle on the outskirts of Abyei town. UNISFA aerial and ground patrols were unable to locate the perpetrators or livestock, with poor road conditions hindering the search in some areas. The mission engaged Ngok Dinka traditional community leaders and intensified patrols in and around Abyei town to prevent an escalation of tensions. On 18 June, members of the Ngok Dinka community demonstrated peacefully in front of the UNISFA headquarters to protest the incident. In an address to the demonstrators, the UNISFA Head of Mission/Force Commander reiterated the mission's continued commitment to the protection of civilians.

7. A UNISFA patrol sighted 14 armed Misseriya men in the Abyei Area, on 12 June, in the vicinity of Luki village, 24 km north of Abyei. Upon sighting the peacekeepers, the armed men fled northwards. Subsequent patrols were unable to relocate them. On 26 June, UNISFA troops at Farouk, northern Abyei, disarmed a Misseriya pastoralist carrying an AK-47 rifle and ammunition.

8. Given the administration and rule-of-law vacuum in the Abyei Area, UNISFA continued to implement its conflict prevention and mitigation strategy, which consists of monitoring and early warning assessments, conducting day and night patrols, maintaining a disengagement area between the local communities, and the regular convening of joint security committee meetings with the traditional leaders of the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities. With the arrival of the seasonal rains, the mission commenced the implementation of its rainy season deployment plan to enable the provision of security and the protection of civilians despite the reduced mobility.

9. UNISFA police personnel continued to provide advice and support to the UNISFA Head of Mission and the military component on issues related to law and order and the protection of civilians. UNISFA police provided training in riot control and public order management to 37 mission quick reaction force officers. In addition, they continued to promote local security initiatives through the provision of support to unarmed, voluntary neighbourhood watch mechanisms and to conduct community patrols.

10. The northwards migration of nomads continued without major incident. As at 1 July, approximately 75,000 Misseriya migrants had exited the Abyei Area to the north, while another 25,000 remained slightly south of the Area's northern boundary. On 22 June, after having previously exited the Area, 30 Mezeqna pastoralists, a sub-clan of the Misseriya, returned south to the vicinity of Goli village because of delays in the arrival of seasonal rains further north.

11. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) continued to conduct mine action survey, clearance and explosive ordnance disposal operations throughout the Abyei Area to improve safety for United Nations personnel, humanitarian actors and local communities. In particular, UNMAS conducted non-technical surveys in five zones in Abyei town and five villages within the Abyei territory, safely removing and destroying seven explosive remnants of war items. In addition, mine action teams conducted area clearance operations at all UNISFA sites to locate and remove potential explosive remnants of war. The mine action teams responded to two emergency tasks that led to the clearance of 143 m^2 of land and the removal of one explosive remnant of war item.

III. Political developments

12. Further to the recommendations of the recently concluded strategic review of UNISFA (see S/2014/336), which were welcomed by the Security Council in its resolution 2156 (2014), a joint delegation consisting of the UNISFA Head of Mission/Force Commander and representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and the African Union Commission started a joint series of consultations with the Governments of the Sudan and South Sudan in Khartoum and Juba, respectively, from 25 June to 2 July, to encourage the parties to take concrete steps to promote the consolidation of peace and security in Abyei. In particular, the delegation sought the parties' views on the implementation of the Agreement of 20 June 2011 and the Abyei Protocol of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including through the full withdrawal of their security forces, the resumption of Abyei Joint Oversight Committee meetings, the implementation of the previous decisions of the Committee and the organization of a joint peace conference between Misseriya and Ngok Dinka traditional leaders. The Government of Ethiopia has decided to join this engagement with both parties, which will continue until the expiry of the current mandate of UNISFA.

IV. Status of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism

13. The Government of the Republic of South Sudan informed UNISFA in writing, on 27 May 2014, of its intention to resume participation in the Joint Border

Verification and Monitoring Mechanism. This followed the withdrawal of its monitors six months earlier pending resolution of a disagreement between the Sudan and South Sudan over the location of the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone centreline. On 28 June, senior South Sudan officials informed UNISFA that their objection was not related to the centreline coordinates, but to the use of those coordinates to demarcate the agreed border corridors in disputed border areas, as it would then amount to de facto border demarcation. The Mechanism resumed operations, on 16 June, through aerial patrols of the Zone from its base in Kadugli, Southern Kordofan. There was no reported military presence or activity in the Zone.

14. The Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism initial operational capability development plan provides for the establishment of team sites in the following four locations: Gok Machar and Malakal in South Sudan and Kadugli and Buram in the Sudan. The mission has completed the construction of accommodation facilities for a force protection platoon at Gok Machar and, from 25 to 27 June, relocated troops from Kadugli. Expansion of that camp to accommodate a full force protection company and additional United Nations monitors continued. Work on the expansion of the Kadugli site to enable the accommodation of a force protection company in transit also continued. Preparations for the development of Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism sites in the other two locations are ongoing. In addition, preparation was undertaken for the commencement of Mechanism ground patrols, which requires the deployment of additional force protection elements and the clearance by United Nations demining teams of patrol routes.

15. As at 1 July, UNISFA, the Sudanese Armed Forces and SPLA had 25, 34 and 30 monitors, respectively, at the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism headquarters in Kadugli. Three UNISFA and two SPLA monitors were deployed at the Gok Machar site. Of the 117 force protection troops deployed to the Mechanism, 79 were in Kadugli and 38 in Gok Machar.

16. The entire complement of 60 dedicated Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism demining staff, and the requisite technical equipment, including 21 landmine-protected vehicles, arrived at the mission. UNMAS surveyed 357 km and cleared 129 km of priority mission routes, including the entirety of the route between Gok Machar and the UNISFA headquarters in Abyei, enabling safe movement along that axis.

V. Humanitarian situation

17. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and their non-governmental organization partners continued to provide humanitarian assistance in the Abyei Area, including in the education, food, health, hygiene, non-food items, nutrition, sanitation and water sectors. The assistance was provided to approximately 81,000 Ngok Dinka beneficiaries. Further, humanitarian actors conducted sustained protection monitoring, in particular for internally displaced persons and returnee populations, to ensure that vulnerable households received humanitarian assistance. Despite impediments, humanitarian actors based in Abyei town provided assistance to approximately 15,000 resident Misseriya and nomads, including health, water and sanitation services.

18. In addition, humanitarian agencies pre-positioned supplies to enable effective emergency responses during the peak of the rainy season. In early July, the World

Food Programme undertook a food security and logistical assessment in the northern part of Abyei to support vulnerable populations through food distribution where required. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued with the implementation of rehabilitation and construction projects. This included the rehabilitation of 9 hand pumps and 2 water yards, as well as the upgrading of 10 mini water yards. IOM also completed the rehabilitation and construction of four new school classrooms at Mekenis (11 km north of Diffra, northern Abyei) and four classrooms in Rumamier (25 km north-east of Agok, southern Abyei). The World Health Organization assisted with the establishment of a health clinic in Diffra.

19. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes continued to face access challenges, especially delayed processing of travel permits from Khartoum to Abyei. Insecurity also hampered access to parts of the Area, with humanitarian actors reliant upon UNISFA for force protection in northern Abyei. In addition, the seasonal rains rendered some roads impassable. The absence of Sudanese national staff also limited programming in the northern areas. Finally, international non-governmental organizations based in Agok were not allowed by Ngok Dinka authorities to access northern Abyei.

20. As a result of the ongoing crisis in South Sudan, displaced persons continued to enter the Abyei Area. As at 1 July, there were approximately 6,500 such persons from South Sudan in the Abyei Area.

VI. Personnel deployments and mission support

21. As at 1 July, the UNISFA military component stood at 4,088 of the authorized strength of 5,326. As part of the rainy season relocation plan, UNISFA troops were moved from temporary operating bases at Noong and Dungoup to Dokura and Abyei town (central Abyei), respectively, while troops stationed at the Marial Achak operating base were moved to Banton (southern Abyei).

22. As at 1 July, the strength of the mission's police component was 22 out of an authorized strength of 50 police officers. The remaining personnel are expected to join the mission when the Abyei Police Service, which the United Nations police component is mandated to train and advise, is established.

23. The development of mission infrastructure continued. In particular, work was completed at the Tajalei temporary operating base (southern Abyei) on the relocation of 150 soldiers from tents to prefabricated hard-wall structures, the provision of an uninterrupted electricity supply and improved access to water. The mission upgraded 11 km of access roadway between Todach and Diffra (northern Abyei) and accelerated the drilling of bore holes for its field sites in southern Abyei through the provision of an extra drilling rig. The mission completed the site clearance and filling works for an airstrip at Athony, southern Abyei.

VII. Financial aspects

24. The General Assembly, by its resolution 68/258 B of 30 June 2014, appropriated the amount of $318.9 million for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

25. As at 10 July 2014, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNISFA amounted to $38.8 million. Total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations at that date amounted to $1,060.8 million.

26. Reimbursement to the contributing government for troop and contingent-owned equipment costs has been made for the period up to 31 May 2014 and 31 March 2014, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

VIII. Observations

27. Despite the absence of clashes in the Abyei Area, I remain deeply concerned about the potential for a serious escalation of tensions between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities that could lead to an outbreak of hostilities during the upcoming migration season. In its resolution 2156 (2014), the Security Council welcomed the recommendations of the strategic review of UNISFA (see S/2014/336), the aims of which are to contribute to the consolidation of peace and security in Abyei by addressing challenges related to full and complete demilitarization, law and order, public administration and inter-community relations. The Security Council called upon the two Governments to work with the United Nations towards that goal and decided to extend the mandate of UNISFA until 15 October 2014.

28. It was on this basis that the African Union Commission, UNISFA and the United Nations Secretariat engaged the Government of the Sudan and the Government of South Sudan during the reporting period to solicit their support for the recommendations. I am grateful to the Government of Ethiopia for having agreed to join this effort. The delegation emphasized to the parties that the present arrangement whereby UNISFA is providing security in the absence of public administration and law-and-order mechanisms is ultimately unsustainable and that greater commitment is needed from them to jointly address such requirements. Practical decisions to address the current and upcoming security, political, administrative and inter-communal challenges in Abyei are urgently needed.

29. The resumption of Abyei Joint Oversight Committee meetings and the implementation of its past decisions are particularly critical, as is active cooperation to address the illegal presence of the Diffra oil police and specific steps to find closure on the assassination of the Ngok Dinka Paramount chief, promote the reduction of small arms circulation and cattle rustling, and prepare the ground for the peaceful and secure return of internally displaced persons north of Abyei town and a peaceful 2014-2015 migration across Abyei. I call on both the Sudan and South Sudan to facilitate the early conduct of a joint inter-communal peace conference between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya traditional leadership without preconditions, which UNISFA stands ready to support. I look forward to reporting on the results of this joint engagement in the next UNISFA end-of-mandate report in September 2014.

30. Despite their assurances, both the Sudan and South Sudan continue to maintain security forces and allow the entry of armed elements into the Abyei Area. This undermines the already fragile security situation in the territory and is in violation of the Agreement of 20 June 2011 and several Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1990 (2011) and 2046 (2012). It is imperative that both

Governments urgently take measures to redeploy all of their forces outside of the Abyei Area and prevent the entry of other armed elements.

31. The instability in locations surrounding the Abyei Area has also created tensions and volatility within the Area itself. These have been further exacerbated by the continued prevalence of small arms among communities within Abyei. Such a situation is not conducive to sustainable peace and security. The communities of Abyei and their leadership must take urgent steps to ensure that Abyei is made "weapons free", in keeping with the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee resolution of 3 May 2013.

32. With the crisis in South Sudan threatening the stability of Abyei and the increasing influx of displaced persons from South Sudan into the area, there has never been a greater need for unhindered access for humanitarian assistance, effective administration and rule-of-law mechanisms. It is crucial that both parties work towards the immediate reconvening of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee to resume its crucial, mandated function of providing political, administrative and security oversight over the Area, on behalf of the Presidents of the Sudan and South Sudan.

33. The resumption of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism operations following the re-engagement of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan is very welcome. The participation of the Sudan and South Sudan in that mechanism is a positive indication of their willingness to work together towards reducing tensions along their shared border. I urge both parties to build on such cooperation to ensure the creation of conditions that support stability and sustainable development in the border region. In the light of the reactivation of the Mechanism, the deployment of additional authorized forces to UNISFA has been initiated to enable the provision of force protection.

34. In conclusion, I would like to reiterate my appreciation to the outgoing Force Commander, Lieutenant General Yohannes Tesfamariam, who has led UNISFA with distinction and whom I recently appointed as Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan. I am also grateful to all of the women and men of UNISFA for their sustained efforts to promote peace and stability in the Abyei Area in what are often arduous and challenging conditions.

United Nations A/ES-10/643–S/2014/519

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
25 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 23 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

In the 24 hours since the Security Council met yesterday to consider the ongoing crisis in the Gaza Strip, I deeply regret to inform you that more than 60 other Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. As we continue to appeal to the international community to stop this barbaric Israeli aggression, and as regional and international efforts are being exerted to secure a ceasefire, Israel, the occupying Power, is instead choosing to intensify its military onslaught on the defenceless Palestinian civilian population it holds captive under its occupation throughout the occupied State of Palestine, and in particular in the besieged Gaza Strip.

Since our letter of Monday, 21 July (A/ES-10/642-S/2014/513), the number of innocent children, women and men killed and injured by the occupying Power has risen dramatically. The death toll, since the start of this Israeli war 15 days ago, now stands at more than 660 Palestinians killed. Shockingly, at least one third of all casualties are children under the age of 18 and more than half of the children killed thus far by the occupying Power were under the age of 12, exposing the brutality of the Israeli occupying forces and the false claims regarding respect for civilian lives.

As of today, 23 July 2014, the number of Palestinians injured stands at more than 4,220 people, many of them seriously injured and in need of urgent medical care that is not available in Gaza, which, owing to the blockade, is already plagued by a shortage of medical supplies and life-saving equipment. In this regard, hospitals and medical centres also continue to be targeted by Israeli occupying forces. Following the deadly attack by Israel on Al-Aqsa hospital in Deir al-Balah two days ago, today Israeli warplanes struck at Al-Wafa hospital in central Gaza, traumatizing sick and injured patients and forcing the doctors, nurses and staff struggling to care for them to flee for safety. Such attacks, without a doubt,

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constitute grave breaches of international humanitarian law, war crimes for which Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable.

The humanitarian impact of Israel's relentless bombardment against densely populated civilian areas in Gaza is vast. The occupying forces have destroyed 1,090 homes, partially demolished 994 homes and damaged more than 18,070 other homes. Moreover, owing to the destruction inflicted on water and sanitation lines, more than 900,000 people are without running water, deepening the immense humanitarian suffering being endured by the population. More than 110,000 Palestinians have been displaced by this aggression and have sought shelter in United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) schools, already double the number of persons who sought refuge from the 2008-2009 Israeli war on Gaza. However, we must stress that no place in Gaza is safe, as demonstrated by Israeli strikes in the past two days at an UNRWA school sheltering displaced Palestinians in central Gaza. UNRWA condemned in the strongest possible terms the shelling of its school, stated that the location of the school and the fact that it was housing civilians had been formally communicated to Israel on three separate occasions, and called for an immediate and comprehensive investigation.

Several Palestinians were also injured when Israeli forces bombarded the 700-year-old Al-Shamaa mosque (also known as Bab al-Darum) in the Al-Zaytoun neighborhood of Gaza City before noon today, yet another strike at a place of worship during this holy month of Ramadan. It should be noted that as of today, the occupying forces have caused damage to at least 65 mosques and two churches in Gaza.

As the list of Israeli crimes grows by the minute, I am compelled to share with the international community just some of the horrifying crimes it has deliberately perpetrated against the Palestinian people in recent days in grave breach of international law and human rights:

- On 22 July, Israeli forces killed four members of the Hajjaj family in Gaza City. Among the dead were Rawan Ziad Hajjaj (age 15), Yousef Muhammed Hajjaj (age 28), Muhammad Shehadeh Hajjaj (age 31) and Fayzeh Saleh Hajjaj (age 66).

- Also on 22 July, Israeli occupying forces killed two elderly women in Rafah in southern Gaza, Hakema Nafe Abu Odwan (age 75) and Najah Nafe Abu Odwan (age 85).

On 21 July, the Israeli occupying forces carried out a number of attacks that killed multiple members of several Palestinian families in Gaza. They included:

- Approximately 25 members of the Abu Jami family and 3 others were killed by an Israeli missile strike on a home in Khan Younis in southern Gaza. The majority of those murdered were children and women, two of whom were reportedly pregnant.

- 10 members of the Al-Qassas family were killed, including 6 children, and 4 others wounded when Israeli occupying forces shelled their home in Gaza City. The dead children were 3-year-old Saman, 4-year-olds Arwa and Mohamad, 7-year-olds Isra' and Nesma and 13-year-old Layma.

- 11 people, including six members of the Kelani family, were killed, and 40 others injured when Israeli warplanes attacked a high-rise apartment building in Gaza City, reducing most of it to rubble. The dead family was identified as Ibrahim Kelani, his wife and their four children.

- On 20 July, a young Palestinian man, searching for family members in the rubble of the Shujaiya neighborhood of Gaza City, was shot several times and killed by an Israeli sniper in a horrific incident that was captured on video.

We note that calls are being made by international human rights organizations worldwide, among them Israeli organizations, calling for an immediate end to Israel's aggression and detailing the extent of the war crimes by the occupying Power that have been committed to date. In this regard, on 21 July, Amnesty International USA issued a statement entitled "Attacks on Medical Facilities and Civilians Add to War Crime Allegations", stating, among other things, that "the continuing bombardment of civilian homes in several areas of the Gaza Strip, as well as the Israeli shelling of a hospital, add to the list of possible war crimes that demand an urgent independent international investigation".

Even though the international community has repeatedly called on Israel to end its bloody aggression against the Palestinian people, Israel, as it has previously, deliberately chooses to ignore those appeals and continues instead with its campaign of devastation and destruction against the Gaza Strip and its civilian population. The international community must continue to demand that the occupying Power immediately end its aggression, its gross collective punishment and all other crimes and violations it is perpetrating against the Palestinian people throughout the occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem.

The Security Council in particular must heed the calls from countries all over the world to shoulder its responsibilities, a call that was firmly and loudly made in the open debate of the Council on 22 July 2014. The Security Council must exert all efforts to bring about an immediate, durable ceasefire and an end to the illegal eight-year blockade and to provide protection for the Palestinian people. These steps are urgent to stop the bloodletting, stem the deterioration of the humanitarian situation and restore calm, following which the Security Council and international community as a whole must undertake urgent, serious and collective efforts to address the underlying causes of this crisis and the root causes of the conflict as a whole, at the core of which is Israel's 47-year-old belligerent military occupation, the source of the grave crisis, suffering and loss being endured by the Palestinian people.

This letter is in follow-up to our 509 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 21 July 2014 (A/ES-10/642-S/2014/513), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/69/230–S/2014/520

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
4 August 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Item 112 (c) of the provisional agenda*
Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of five members of the International Court of Justice

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Election of five members of the International Court of Justice

Memorandum by the Secretary-General**

I. Introduction

1. On 5 February 2015, the terms of office of the following five members of the International Court of Justice will expire:

Mr. Bernardo Sepúlveda-Amor (Mexico)
Mr. Kenneth Keith (New Zealand)
Mr. Mohamed Bennouna (Morocco)
Mr. Leonid Skotnikov (Russian Federation)
Ms. Joan E. Donoghue (United States of America)

It is therefore necessary for the General Assembly and the Security Council, during the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, to elect five judges for a term of office of nine years, beginning on 6 February 2015.

2. On 31 January 2014, the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, on behalf of the Secretary-General, requested nominations from the national groups of States parties to the Statute of the Court not later than 30 June 2014. The nominations received by that date and the curricula vitae of the candidates are contained in separate documents submitted to the General Assembly and to the Security Council (A/69/253-S/2014/521 and A/69/254-S/2014/522). Furthermore, the list of candidates will appear on the ballot papers distributed during the elections. The object of the present memorandum is to set out the current composition of the International Court of Justice and to describe the procedure in the General Assembly and the Security Council with regard to the election.

* A/69/150.

** In accordance with the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the Secretary-General requested States parties to the Statute to provide nominations to the Court from national groups by 30 June 2014. The present document could therefore not be prepared earlier.

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II. Composition of the International Court of Justice

3. The current composition of the International Court of Justice is as follows:

President:
Peter Tomka (Slovakia)***

Vice-President:
Bernardo Sepúlveda-Amor (Mexico)*

Judges:
Hisashi Owada (Japan)***
Ronny Abraham (France)**
Kenneth Keith (New Zealand)*
Mohamed Bennouna (Morocco)*
Leonid Skotnikov (Russian Federation)*
Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade (Brazil)**
Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf (Somalia)**
Christopher Greenwood (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)**
Xue Hanqin (China)***
Joan E. Donoghue (United States of America)*
Giorgio Gaja (Italy)***
Julia Sebutinde (Uganda)***
Dalveer Bhandari (India)**

* Term of office expires on 5 February 2015.
** Term of office expires on 5 February 2018.
*** Term of office expires on 5 February 2021.

III. Procedure in the General Assembly and in the Security Council

4. The election will be held in accordance with the following:

(a) The Statute of the Court, in particular Articles 2 to 4 and 7 to 12;

(b) Rules 150 and 151 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

(c) Rules 40 and 61 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

5. On the date of the election, the General Assembly and the Security Council will proceed, independently of one another, to elect five members of the Court to fill the vacancy (Article 8 of the Statute).

6. According to Article 2 of the Statute, members of the Court are to be elected, regardless of their nationality, from among persons of high moral character, who possess the qualifications required in their respective countries for appointment to the highest judicial offices, or are jurisconsults of recognized competence in international law. Article 9 requires electors to bear in mind not only that the person to be elected should individually possess the qualifications required, but also that, in

the body as a whole, the representation of the main forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems of the world should be assured.

7. Those candidates who obtain an absolute majority of votes both in the General Assembly and in the Security Council will be considered as elected (Article 10, paragraph 1, of the Statute).

8. The consistent practice of the United Nations has been to interpret the words "absolute majority" as meaning a majority of all electors, whether or not they vote or are allowed to vote. The electors in the General Assembly will be all 193 Member States. Accordingly, 97 votes constitutes an absolute majority in the Assembly for the purpose of the present elections.

9. In the Security Council, eight votes constitutes an absolute majority and no distinction is made between permanent and non-permanent members of the Council (Article 10, paragraph 2, of the Statute).

10. Only those candidates whose names appear on the ballot papers are eligible for election. The electors in the General Assembly and in the Security Council will indicate the candidates for whom they wish to vote by placing crosses against their names on the ballot papers. Each elector may vote for not more than five candidates on the first ballot and, on subsequent ballots, if any, for five less the number of candidates who have already obtained absolute majorities.

11. At the 915th plenary meeting of the General Assembly, on 16 November 1960, a procedural discussion was held as to whether rule 94 (then rule 96) of the rules of procedure of the Assembly should be applied in elections to the International Court of Justice. That rule lays down a procedure for restricted ballots in the event that, after the first ballot, the requisite number of candidates have not obtained the required majority. By 47 votes to 27, with 25 abstentions, the Assembly decided that the rule did not apply to elections to the Court and proceeded to elect the requisite number of candidates by a series of unrestricted ballots. That decision has been followed consistently.

12. Accordingly, if in the first ballot in either the General Assembly or the Security Council, the number of candidates obtaining an absolute majority is less than five, a second ballot will be held and balloting will continue at the same meeting until five candidates have obtained the required majority (rule 151 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly and rule 61 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council).

13. Cases, however, have arisen in the Security Council in which more than the required number of candidates have obtained an absolute majority on the same ballot. The practice followed by the Council has been to hold a new vote on all the candidates, and the President of the Council made no notification to the President of the General Assembly until only the required number of candidates, and no more, had obtained an absolute majority in the Council.

14. Only when five candidates have obtained the required majority in one of the organs will the President of that organ notify the President of the other organ of the names of the five candidates. The President of the latter should not communicate such names to the members of that organ until that organ has itself given five candidates the required majority of votes.

15. If, upon comparison of the respective lists of names that have obtained an absolute majority in the General Assembly and in the Security Council, fewer than five candidates have been thus elected pursuant to paragraph 7 above, the Assembly and the Council will proceed, again independently of one another, at a second meeting and, if necessary, a third meeting to elect candidates by further ballots for seats remaining vacant (Article 11 of the Statute), the results again being compared after the required number of candidates have obtained an absolute majority in each organ.

16. If, however, after the third meeting, one or more seats still remain unfilled, the General Assembly and the Security Council may at any time, at the request of either organ, form a joint conference consisting of six members, three appointed by each organ. This joint conference may, by an absolute majority, agree upon one name for each seat still vacant and submit the name or names for the respective acceptance of the Assembly and the Council. If the joint conference is unanimously agreed, it may submit the name of a person not included in the list of nominations, provided that candidate fulfils the required conditions (Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Statute).

17. If the joint conference is satisfied that it will not be successful in procuring an election, those members of the Court who have already been elected shall, within a period to be fixed by the Security Council, proceed to fill the vacant seat or seats by selection from among those candidates who have obtained votes either in the General Assembly or in the Security Council. In the event of an equality of votes among the judges, the eldest shall have a casting vote (Article 12, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Statute).

United Nations A/69/253–S/2014/521

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
4 August 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Item 112 (c) of the provisional agenda*
Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of five members of the International Court of Justice

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

List of candidates nominated by national groups

Note by the Secretary-General**

1. By a communication dated 31 January 2014 addressed on behalf of the Secretary-General to the national groups of the States parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, attention was drawn to the fact that the terms of office of the following five members of the Court will expire on 5 February 2015:

Mr. Bernardo Sepúlveda-Amor (Mexico)
Mr. Kenneth Keith (New Zealand)
Mr. Mohamed Bennouna (Morocco)
Mr. Leonid Skotnikov (Russian Federation)
Ms. Joan E. Donoghue (United States of America)

2. In conformity with Article 4 and Article 13 of the Statute of the Court, the General Assembly and the Security Council, during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, will elect five judges for a period of nine years, beginning on 6 February 2015. In accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court, national groups were thus invited to undertake the nomination of persons in a position to accept the duties of a member of the Court and to submit such nominations to the Secretary-General no later than 30 June 2014.

3. In accordance with Article 7 of the Statute of the Court, the Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the General Assembly and to the Security Council a list in alphabetical order of all the persons thus nominated (see annex).

4. The composition of the Court and the voting procedure to be followed in the General Assembly and in the Security Council are set out in a memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/69/230-S/2014/520). The curricula vitae of the candidates appear in document A/69/254-S/2014/522.

* A/69/150.

** In accordance with the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the Secretary-General requested States parties to the Statute to provide nominations to the Court from national groups by 30 June 2014. The present document could therefore not be prepared earlier.

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Annex

List of candidates nominated by national groups

Name and nationality	*Nominated by the national group of*
Agatt, Jemal (Mauritania)	Mauritania
Arivony, Eugénie Liliane (Madagascar)	Madagascar
Bennouna, Mohamed (Morocco)	Argentina
	China
	Denmark
	Finland
	France
	Iceland
	Morocco
	Norway
	Peru
	Russian Federation
	Spain
Bula-Bula, Sayeman (Democratic Republic of the Congo)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Cerutti, Susana Ruiz (Argentina)	Argentina
	Australia
	Brazil
	Colombia
	France
	Germany
	Greece
	Iceland
	Morocco
	Peru
	Spain

Name and nationality	*Nominated by the national group of*
Crawford, James Richard (Australia)	Argentina
	Australia
	Austria
	Canada
	China
	Colombia
	Costa Rica
	Croatia
	Denmark
	Finland
	Germany
	Greece
	Iceland
	Italy
	Malaysia
	Malta
	Mexico
	Morocco
	Netherlands
	New Zealand
	Norway
	Poland
	Slovakia
	Sweden
	Thailand
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Viet Nam

Name and nationality	*Nominated by the national group of*
Donoghue, Joan E. (United States of America)	Australia
	Austria
	Canada
	China
	Colombia
	Denmark
	France
	Greece
	Iceland
	Ireland
	Italy
	Mexico
	Netherlands
	New Zealand
	Norway
	Peru
	Republic of Korea
	Russian Federation
	Slovakia
	Sweden
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	United States of America
Gevorgian, Kirill (Russian Federation)	Belarus
	China
	Colombia
	France
	Greece
	Japan

Name and nationality	*Nominated by the national group of*
	Morocco
	Peru
	Republic of Korea
	Russian Federation
	Slovakia
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	United States of America
Robinson, Patrick Lipton (Jamaica)	Canada
	Finland
	Jamaica
	Italy
	Slovakia
	Sweden
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland